GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2636
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2000
GANGA ACTION CELL
RAMESH CHAND TOMAR

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up a `Ganga Action Cell` to save the river from contamination and meeting the same fate as that of the Yamuna;

(b) if so, the composition of members of the proposed Ganga Action Cell;

(c) whether the Government have taken any decision to connect some rivers with Ganga in view of apprehensions in regard to its drying; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT & FORESTS

(SHRI BABU LAL MARANDI)

(a) & (b) No, Sir. There is a National River Conservation Directorate (which was earlier known as Ganga Project Directorate) functioning in the Ministry of Environment & Forests.This Directorate supervises the implementation of the National River Conservation Plan (which includes the Ganga Action Plan Phase-II) withan approved outlay of Rs.2013.39 crore. There are two regional offices of the Directorate at Calcutta and Allahabad.

(c) & (d) There is a `Himalayan Rivers Development Plan` under the `National Perspective Plan` for optimum development of water resources of the country. The Himalayan Rivers Development Plan envisages construction of storage reservoirs on the principal tributaries of the Ganga and the Brahmaputra in India and Nepal, alongwith interlinking canal systems to transfer surplus flows of the eastern tributaries of the Ganga to the west, apart from linking of the main Brahmaputra and its tributaries with the Ganga and Ganga with Mahanadi. The Himalayan Rivers Development Plan has not been approved by Government.